

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MBFR V 00328 181000Z

17

ACTION ACDA-10

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L-01 NSAE-00 OIC-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0518

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AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L MBFR VIENNA 0328

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: GDR PRESENTATION AT OCT 17
PLENARY SESSION

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: AT THE OCTOBER 17 PLENARY MEETING OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS, CHAIRED BY THE BELGIAN REP (ADRIAENSSSEN), THE SOLE STATEMENT WAS DELIVERED BY GDR REP OESER. THE GDR STATEMENT WAS NON-POLEMICAL, HIGHLY REPETITIOUS AND BROKE NO NEW GROUND. IT SEEMED DESIGNED TO TREAD WATER, PENDING AS WESTERN REACTION TO THE EASTERN IDEAS PUT FORWARD AT THE OCT. 15 INFORMAL MEETING.

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PAGE 02 MBFR V 00328 181000Z

2. IN HIS STATEMENT, OESER FOCUSED ON THE "WHOSE

FORCES" ISSUE, REPEATEDLY DEMANDING THAT ALL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS AGREE TO "SIMULTANEOUS AND EQUIVALENT REDUCTIONS" FROM THE OUTSET "AND PARELLEL IMPLEMENTATION." HE GROUNDED THIS EASTERN POSITION IN THE PRINCIPLES REFLECTED IN THE JUNE, 1973 PRELIMINARY TALKS COMMUNIQUE IN GENERAL AND IN THE PRINCIPLES OF MUTUALITY AND EQUALITY OF OBLIGATIONS IN PARTICULAR. REFERRING TO THE PREVIOUS WESTERN PLENARY STATEMENTS THIS ROUND, OESER REJECTED, THE ALLEGED WESTERN AIM TO ALTER THE CURRENT BALANCE OF FORCES AND CRITICIZED AS SUPERFICIAL THE OCT. 10 WESTERN PLENARY STATEMENT ON DISPARITIES (MBFR VIENNA 308). IN PARTICULAR, OESER SAID IT WAS UNIMPORTANT WHETHER THE ENTIRE TERRITORY OF A PARTICIPATING STATE IS LOCATED IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS. HE ALSO ARGUED THAT THE EQUAL PERCENTAGE REDUCTION METHOD TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THE DIFFERENT PROPORTION OF FORCES PARTICIPATING STATES MAINTAIN IN THE REDUCTION AREA. FINALLY, OESER INSISTED ON SPECIFICATION OF PRECISE OBLIGATIONS FOR "GROUND AND AIR FORCES, INCLUDING UNITS WITH NUCLEAR WEAPONS."
END SUMMARY

3. TEXT OF GDR STATEMENT AT OCTOBER 17 PLENARY IS BEING SENT BY AIRGRAM.RESOR

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